The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons & the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery present the fourth triennial RACS Global Health Symposium

‘Strengthening Safe Surgery and Anaesthesia in the Asia Pacific’

Monday, 26 October 2015

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Headquarters
250-290 Spring St, East Melbourne

Join the conversation #racsGHS
Welcome to the fourth triennial RACS Global Health Symposium, hosted by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). This year our meeting is held in association with the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery.

The theme for the Symposium is Strengthening Safe Surgery and Anaesthesia in the Asia Pacific. The aim is to bring together surgeons, anaesthetists, public health specialists, leaders, policy makers and health practitioners from throughout the Asia Pacific to discuss and develop strategies to overcome the many barriers to improving health systems and surgical services that are faced by clinicians, administrators and policy makers on the ground.

At the previous Symposium in 2012, specialists and leaders in global surgery and anaesthesia addressed the global unmet burden of surgical disease. This was the first time that a global surgery and anaesthesia meeting of this scale had been held in this region of the world. It was an outstanding success, with the meeting agreeing to promote surgical care and anaesthesia to the World Health Organisation (WHO) as part of a primary health care package, integral to achieving universal health coverage. Three years later, this recommendation and the subsequent advocacy work by the global surgical community culminated in a WHO Resolution that was passed in May 2015. This resolution was the important first step to getting emergency and essential surgery included as part of a basic health care package in low and middle income countries (LMICs).

The intention of the 2015 Symposium is to build on this achievement, and develop a roadmap to implement solutions for ensuring universal access to safe, affordable surgical and anaesthesia care when needed, throughout the Asia Pacific.

On Monday 26 October, the Program will focus on four key issues outlined in the recent Lancet Commission on Global Surgery report as being critical to achieving universal access to safe surgery and anaesthesia by 2030: strengthening health systems, solving workforce issues, sustainable financing of health care systems and ensuring sufficient quality and safety. Importantly, the meeting will provide an opportunity to hear from representatives of many countries in the Pacific and South East Asia.

On Tuesday 27 October, the College will host an Asia Pacific Leaders’ Forum with a selected group of key decision-makers and representatives of regional specialist colleges to discuss the role of professional colleges in Asia-Pacific. The Monday Program is designed to inform the Leaders’ Forum, which will be tasked with developing a plan for professional colleges in promoting universal access to safe surgery, to 2030.

RACS is committed to supporting the Ministries of Health in low and middle income countries in our region to incorporate these essential services into their national health plans. We look forward to your participation and ideas on how we can overcome the many challenges to making this a reality.

We would like to thank our sponsors, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Australian Medical Council and the RACS Foundation for Surgery for supporting this event.

Associate Professor Phill Carson & Professor Russell Gruen
Convenors, RACS Global Health Symposium
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PHILL CARSON

Phillip Carson is Associate Professor of Surgery at the Royal Darwin Hospital in the Northern Territory of Australia. His practice and interests cover a wide range of surgical disciplines including Oncology, Thoracic, Breast and Endocrine Surgery and Urology, Infectious Disease and Trauma. Other passions include delivering high quality surgery across barriers of distance and culture.

He currently serves on the Council of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and is Chair of External Affairs and the Global Health Committee.

PROFESSOR RUSSELL GRUEN

Russell Gruen is a General and Trauma surgeon, and an expert in resuscitation of severely injured patients, haemorrhage control and massive transfusion. In 2015 he was appointed Professor of Surgery at the new Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine and Director of the Nanyang Institute of Technology in Health and Medicine at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. For the past six years, Russell has made a significant contribution to trauma research in Australia and internationally as Director of the National Trauma Research Institute (NTRI) and as a Trauma Consultant at The Alfred hospital. He will continue his affiliation with Monash University as Professor of Surgery and Public Health. He has 20 years’ postgraduate experience in research spanning a range of clinical, health service and knowledge translation topics related to trauma, surgery and emergency services and culture.

PROFESSOR CHRIS BAGGOLEY

Professor Chris Baggoley AO is Chief Medical Officer for the Australian Government and is the principal medical adviser to the Minister and the Department of Health. He also holds direct responsibility for the Department of Health’s Office of Health Protection.

Prior to his appointment Professor Baggoley was the Chief Executive of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. He was a former Chief Medical Officer with the South Australian Department of Health. His clinical career has been in emergency medicine.

Professor Baggoley was the President of the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine, Chair of the national Committee of Presidents of Medical Colleges and Chair of the Board of the National Institute of Clinical Studies. His previous medical positions include Professor-Director of Emergency Medicine at the University of Adelaide and Royal Adelaide Hospital; Director of Emergency Medicine at Flinders Medical Centre; the inaugural Director of Emergency Services at the Ashford Community Hospital.

In addition to his Flinders University Degree in Medicine, Professor Baggoley holds a Flinders University Bachelor in Social Administration and an Honours degree in Veterinary Science from the University of Melbourne. In the Queen's Birthday honours for 2013, Professor Baggoley was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO).

DR ROWAN GILLIES

Rowan Gillies is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon from Australia.

He is a commissioner on the Lancet Global Surgery Commission, was Senior Clinical Fellow in global surgery at Harvard Medical School, and previously, International President of Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) from 2004 to 2006. He has worked extensively as a doctor, surgeon and administrator in lower income settings.
PROFESSOR JOHN MEARA

John G. Meara, MD, DMD, MBA is the Kletjian Professor of Global Surgery in the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, Director of the Program in Global Surgery and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, Plastic Surgeon-in-Chief at Boston Children’s Hospital, and Chair for the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery. He is also the Vice-Chair of the Health Policy Advisory Group for the American College of Surgeons.

Since 2008, he has co-directed the Paul Farmer Global Surgery Fellowship program in collaboration with Partners In Health. Dr. Meara’s interests are in the areas of craniofacial anomalies, cleft lip and cleft palate, with a particular interest in augmenting the delivery of quality surgical care in low-resource settings.

Dr NOBHOJIT ROY

Chief of Surgical services, BARC Hospital (Govt of India), HBNI University, Mumbai; Public Health Specialist, School of Habitat studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Dr Roy MBBS, MS, MPH has been a community surgical provider, catering to the burden of disease in populations of rural and tribal areas of India. Roy received his training as a Trauma Surgeon in Mumbai, India and holds an MPH from Johns Hopkins University. His areas of research interests are preventable injury deaths, trauma registry, population based surveys for disease burden, access and delivery of healthcare and prehospital care in the resource-poor setting of low-middle income countries.

At the national level for the Ministry of Health, he is in the task force for developing standard surgical treatment guidelines and in the Working Group on Emergency Care in India. Since 2004, on the clinical practice front, he has been the Chief of Surgery at the BARC Hospital, a secondary and tertiary health care provider to 100,000 population in suburban Mumbai. He is also the Public Health Specialist at the Environmental Health Resource Hub in the School of Habitat Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences University, studying environmental and occupational health issues.

PROFESSOR ZAW WAI SOE

MBBS (Yangon), M.Med.Sc (Ortho, FRCS (Glasgow), Dr.Med.Sc(Ortho)Diploma in Medical Education

Professor Zaw Wai Soe has been Rector of the University of Medicine (1) Yangon, Myanmar since May 2015. He was appointed as Rector of the University of Medicine (2) Yangon in 2014. He is also the task force leader for the reform process of 16 health related universities in Myanmar.

After he obtained his MBBS in 1986 from University of Medicine (2), he served as a civil assistant surgeon for three years in Myingan District Hospital. He attended M.Med. Sc (Orthopaedics and Traumatology) at the University of Medicine, Mandalay from 1993 to 1995. In 1997, he passed the FRCS (Glasgow) examination and worked as an Orthopaedic registrar in Falkirk Royal Infirmary, Scotland for two years. After coming back in 2000, he has worked in the Orthopaedic Department of Yangon General Hospital, Yangon Orthopaedic Hospital and University of Medicine (1). He obtained Dr. MedSc (Ortho) in 2005 and Diploma in Medical Education in 2006.

He is one of the key founders of Spine Surgery and Emergency Medicine in Myanmar.
**LORD TANGI O VAOUKONUKA (Dr Viliami Tangi)**

Lord Viliami Tangi is the Chief Surgeon Specialist at Vaiola Hospital in Tonga. He graduated from the Fiji School of Medicine in 1973. He gained the FRACS in 1983, becoming the first Tongan clinician to gain a Fellowship by examination in any medical discipline. Dr Tangi was appointed Minister for Health, Tonga in March 1999, a post he held for the next 11 and a half years. He was appointed directly from the clinical setting.

He was appointed Deputy Prime Minister, Tonga, in May 2006 for four and a half years and Acting Minister for Police, Prison and Fire Services for two years. During these years, Tonga’s Ministry of Health went through major reform involving all areas of works with strong emphasis on Human Resource Development, Health Care Financing, Infrastructure Development and Health Information systems.

Dr Tangi was a member of the Executive Board of WHO in 2005-2007. Currently, he is involved in capacity building of young doctors both locally and in the region. He is a Senior Clinical Advisor to SSCSIP, an Australian Government funded project for Strengthening Specialised Clinical Services in the Pacific. He is also a member of the Scientific and Technical Expert Group (STEG) which advises the Public Health Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). Dr Tangi is the President of the Pacific Islands Surgeons Association (PISA) and this year became a member of the RACS Global Health Committee.

**DR SABU THOMAS**

Sabu Thomas MS, M Ch, DNB, MPH , FRACS is Senior Staff Specialist at Cairns Hospital in Queensland. He was trained in General Surgery at the Christian Medical College Ludhiana, India. After a short additional training in Leprosy Reconstructive Surgery, he worked with Leprosy Mission as a reconstructive and general surgeon covering the foothills of Himalayas and northern part of Uttar Pradesh in India. Later, he did further training in Paediatric Surgery and Paediatric Urology at Christian Medical College, Vellore. He worked with Emmanuel Hospital Association Mission Hospital in North India for 6 years before joining the Royal Darwin Hospital as staff specialist. In 2010 he was appointed as staff specialist at Cairns Hospital and has worked there since, except for a year’s break at Monash Children’s Hospital, Melbourne as a fellow in Paediatric Urology and Paediatric Surgery. Special interests in Surgery: rural surgery, cost effective solutions in surgery, surgical safety and quality, holistic care and training of surgeons in the widest possible spectrum of skills.

**PROFESSOR DAVID WATTERS OBE, FRCSEd, FRACS**

David Watters is the current RACS President, who, since 2000 has been Professor of Surgery for Barwon Health in Geelong, initially with Melbourne (2000-2010), and then Deakin University (since 2011). He is a General Surgeon with interests in General, Colorectal and Endocrine Surgery. He is a strong advocate for better models of emergency surgical care, and is actively engaged in advocating for global surgery, having spent almost 20 years in developing countries including Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong, Zambie and South Africa. He is an Edinburgh University graduate, and in addition to the FRACS, a fellow of the Edinburgh, Hong Kong, and East Central and Southern Africa Colleges of Surgeons. His research interests include the history of surgery, surgical audit and performance, colorectal outcomes, surgical education, perioperative mortality and global health. He has over 120 peer reviewed publications and 6 books including Stitches in Time - Two centuries of Surgery in Papua New Guinea (Xlibris, 2012) and the recently published Anzac Surgeons of Gallipoli (RACS 2015). In recognition of his contribution to surgery and surgical training in PNG he was awarded the OBE (2012), and Rotary’s Paul Harris Fellowship (2000).

**DR JOAO PEDRO XAVIER**

Dr Joao Pedro Xavier is a Timorese General Surgeon with an interest in Urology. After completing his undergraduate medical studies in Indonesia, Dr Joao Pedro did his Masters of Medicine (Surgery) at the University of Papua New Guinea between 2006-2010. In addition to balancing his clinical and teaching responsibilities, he is also the Clinical Director at Hospital Nacional Guido Valadares, the national hospital in Dili, Timor-Leste. He is an active member of Associacao dos Medicos de Timor Leste (AMTL).
# Program | Monday 26 October

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## Program | Monday 26 October

### Session 4  
What’s Going On? Measuring Need and Improving Performance  
Chair: Rob McDougall

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### Session 5  
Working to Advance Surgery and Anaesthesia in the Asia Pacific: A Coordinated Approach in the Region.  
Chair: David Watters

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| 16.00- | Summary of Issues.  
What is the role of established Colleges?  
What would success look like in 10 years? | Phill Carson                                                                            |
| 16.20- | Panel Discussion                                                      | Representatives of ANZCA, RACS, RANZCOG, ACEM, ASA, RACP, Kiki Lukman, Bertha Woon, Phill Carson, Viliami Tangi, Ikau Kevau |
| 17.00- | Continuing the Conversation: Cocktail Function                        | RACS Hughes Room                                                                      |

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Please join us in the Hughes Room at the College for drinks and canapes on Monday evening to continue the conversation after the Symposium.
The Foundation for Surgery actively supports innovative surgical research, aid projects in underprivileged communities, skills transfer and education programs across our region.

Most of us have a cause that is close to our hearts and that is why the College has, over the years, encouraged tax deductible donations that support specific interests.

The Foundation for Surgery is an integral part of this vision, enabling the broader community to support projects aimed at promoting the health and well-being of those in our own community and in disadvantaged communities in South East Asia and Pacific Island nations.

Making a Donation

You can donate to the Foundation via the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons’ Webstore on the College website. Alternatively, donations can be posted along with our donation form, available for download on the Foundation for Surgery page of the College website.

www.surgeons.org

All donations are tax deductable within Australia and New Zealand.

Indigenous Health

The College has set itself the strategic challenge of raising funds for Indigenous health to support the delivery of surgical services in Indigenous communities. Through its Indigenous Health Committee, the College is identifying suitable projects, engaging key stakeholders and ensuring the government is listening to the needs of our Indigenous surgeons and their communities.

RACS Global Health

RACS Global Health provides specialist medical education, training, capacity development and medical aid to eighteen countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Volunteer health professionals provide essential surgical and medical services to people who are unable to access or afford treatment. While working overseas, our volunteer specialists work closely with the national doctors and health staff to share their skills and expertise.

Scholarships

The Scholarship Program funds theoretical and practical research in Australia and New Zealand. Scholarship recipients have expanded fields of knowledge and reinforced high quality healthcare, especially surgical healthcare, for the ANZ community.

The Foundation for Surgery has in place a rigorous and merit-based application process to maximise the value of our research dollars. We have the structures in place to further expand our activities to meet the increasing demand for research support.
RACS Global Health offers a range of international scholarships and travel grants to promising surgeons and other health professionals to assist them to improve health services in their countries.

The awards fund training opportunities for clinical and leadership skills development, and facilitate professional contact with Australian and New Zealand medical personnel.

For further information, please contact:
RACS Global Health
P: +61 3 9249 1211
E: international.scholarships@surgeons.org
www.surgeons.org

The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists invites suitable applicants for the ANZCA International Scholarship.

This prestigious award is directed at anaesthetists/pain medicine specialists who are destined to be medical leaders in their home countries. The scholarship is offered to a recently qualified specialist (up to 40 years of age) from a developing country. It is intended to provide an opportunity for the specialist to develop skills to manage a department, act as a role model to local clinicians and promote education and training in their home country.

Please find additional information on the scholarship from: www.anzca.edu.au/fellows/community-development/overseas-aid.html or contact overseasaid@anzca.edu.au

RACS INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ASIA PACIFIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

ANZCA International Scholarship

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY CLINICIANS
Come and join the discussions at the International Forum at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons’ Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) held annually in May.

The 2016 International Forum will be held on Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd May 2016 at the ASC in Brisbane. The Program for 2016 is convened by Dr Neil Wetzig and includes sessions on:

- Regional approaches to global surgery: case studies and perspectives from Timor Leste, Pacific Islands, China, Myanmar and Africa
- An international approach to global surgery: the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery and the WHO - are these real opportunities for change?
- The role of surgery in national health plans in low and middle income countries
- Rowan Nicks Scholars’ presentations and research papers

The provisional program is available at: http://www.surgeons.org/for-the-public/racs-global-health/symposium-international-forums/

Enquiries may be directed to: global.health@surgeons.org
The College developed a set of guidelines to help first responders and health care personnel with the initial management of wounds to prevent infection and further tissue loss. It highlights the risk of contamination and sets out a step-by-step guide to safely manage wounds.

Wounds should not be primarily closed in the setting of a disaster. Sadly this has often been done by those responsible for the primary assessment and care of wounds in their efforts to help. These sutured wounds have then become infected, with consequent tissue loss, sometimes also limb loss, considerable morbidity, prolonged disability and some threat to life.

The problem was recognised by surgeons attending a disaster a few days after the initial treatment and misguided closure of contaminated wounds. A/Prof Rob Atkinson FRACS and the Trauma Committee referred the matter to the International Committee to see what could be done. The result is an internationally agreed consensus on how wounds should be managed in disasters. A poster for distribution by national surgical societies and colleges will be launched at the ASC in May 2014.

It highlights the risk of contamination and sets out a step-by-step guide to cleaning, debridement and dressing the wound in preparation for delayed primary closure, or further exploration in complex cases, by skilled surgeons if required. The consensus was reached during the Global Burden of Surgical Disease Symposium at the College in 2012. It has been subsequently discussed in meetings of surgical colleges worldwide and has resulted in considerable interest, enthusiasm for its message and support for its distribution. The poster will be co-badged with several international colleges including the American College of Surgeons, College of Surgeons of Indonesia and the Philippines College of Surgeons.

The poster is being used as a tool for promoting education about optimal wound management and for field-based guidance in the acute aftermath of a disaster. It is presented as a simple 'A,B,C,D,E,F,G' aide de memo for easy reference and to facilitate recollection.

With the support of international colleges and societies, it is intended that the poster will be distributed to hospitals and health clinics in developing countries and disaster prone regions. It could also be included in disaster management equipment packs and in emergency care facilities during disaster situations. The poster has been translated into French, and an editable version can be made available for translation into other languages and modified for local use if necessary.

The guidelines are in the form of an illustrated poster, which is available as a free resource for health care workers globally. It is specifically directed at doctors in isolated healthcare environments. Contact RACS Global Health to receive a free copy of the poster.

The development of the poster was a result of a study on wound management in disaster settings, conducted by Dr Prasit Wuthisuthimethawee, et al and presented at the Wound Management Consensus Meeting during the Global Burden of Surgical Disease Symposium, held at the College in September 2012.

The results of the study are presented in an Open Access article, 'Wound Management in Disaster Settings' published in the World Journal of Surgery.

Please contact RACS Global Health on +61 3 9249 1211 or global.health@surgeons.org to receive a free electronic copy of the poster. It is also available for download on the RACS website. An editable version of the poster is available for translation upon request.
Conference Organiser
Ms Stephanie Korin
RACS Global Health
P: +61 3 9249 1211
E: stephanie.korin@surgeons.org
www.surgeons.org